

treatment of a disease and for diagnosis of a disease. The microparticles comprise a biodegradable polymer, such as a poly(α -hydroxy acid), a polyhydroxy butyric acid, a polycaprolactone, a polyorthoester, a polyanhydride, or a polycyanoacrylate, and a detergent selected from a cationic detergent and an anionic detergent. The microparticles further comprise an antigen adsorbed on the surface of the microparticle.

The above Abstract is provided on a separate attached sheet as required by the Examiner.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-16, 43-47, 52-54, 56 and 57 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A microparticle comprising:
a polymer selected from the group consisting of a poly(α -hydroxy acid), a polyhydroxy butyric acid, a polycaprolactone, a polyorthoester, a polyanhydride, and a polycyanoacrylate;
a detergent selected from a cationic detergent and an anionic detergent; and
an antigen adsorbed on the surface of said microparticle.

2. (Twice Amended) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein said antigen is selected from an antigen comprising a polypeptide and an antigen comprising a polynucleotide.

3. (Twice Amended) The microparticle of claim 1, further comprising an additional biologically active macromolecule encapsulated within said microparticle, wherein the additional biologically active macromolecule is selected from a polypeptide, a polynucleotide, a polynucleoside, an antigen, a hormone, an enzyme, and an immunological adjuvant.

4. (Amended) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the poly(α -hydroxy acid) is selected from poly(L-lactide), poly(D,L-lactide) and poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide).
